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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): IPAGSA  
INDUSTRIAL, S.L. [ES/ES]; Sant Jordi, 15, E-08191  
Rubí - Barcelona (ES).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): BENTLEY, Peter,  
Jonathan [GB/ES]; Carrer D'Adrià Pardos, 13, E-08198  
La Floresta - Barcelona (ES).

(74) Agent: BERNARDO NORIEGA, Francisco; ABG  
Patentes, S.L., Orense, 68, 7th floor, E-28020 Madrid  
(ES).

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(54) Title: THERMALLY REACTIVE INFRARED ABSORPTION POLYMERS AND THEIR USE IN A HEAT SENSITIVE  
LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING PLATE

(57) Abstract: The invention provides a near infrared absorption polymer comprising at least two different pendent infra-red chro-  
mophoric moieties covalently bonded to the backbone of an alkali-soluble resin, at least one of which is an indole cyanine dye and  
the other of which is a benz [e]-indole cyanine dye. When used in the coating of a heat sensitive positive working lithographic print-  
ing plate precursor the stabilization time needed after manufacture is significantly reduced, avoiding further conditioning processes  
before use. The precursors are preferably imagewise exposed with a near-infrared laser emitting at between 780 nm and 850 nm.